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ABSTRACT

In 1989, a study was conducted at William Rainey Harper College (WRHC) to assess the current and potential child care needs of students and staff and to determine whether the early childhood program child care services should be expanded. A survey was mailed to 708 full-time faculty, full-time staff, and part-time staff and to 312 students responsible for children under the age of 12. Study findings, based on a 27% response rate from staff/faculty and a 26% response rate from students, included the following: (1) if services were available at the hours needed, projected clients of WRHC's Child Care Center would include 43 staff/faculty members and 255 students; (2) faculty/staff had the greatest need for child care in the late afternoons, while students needed child care most during the evenings; (3) almost all who had an interest in using the center indicated that they would be willing to pay for part-time care at a rate of $2 per hour; (4) 31 people indicated a need for full-time infant care, 53 for full-time toddler care, 120 for full-time care for 2- to 5-year olds, and 69 for kindergarten; (5) the most frequent problem experienced by those who needed or used child care was getting a child care schedule that matched their work or college schedule; (6) 46.2% of the faculty/staff respondents and 91.9% of the students currently had relatives caring for their children; and (7) students paid an average of $74 a week per child for full-time child care, and an average of $44 per week per child for part-time care. The survey instrument and open-ended comments from the respondents are attached. (ALB)

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Office of Planning and Research

William Rainey Harper College

SURVEY OF NEED FOR EXPANSION OF CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR HARPER EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

Volume XVII, No. 5
April 14, 1989

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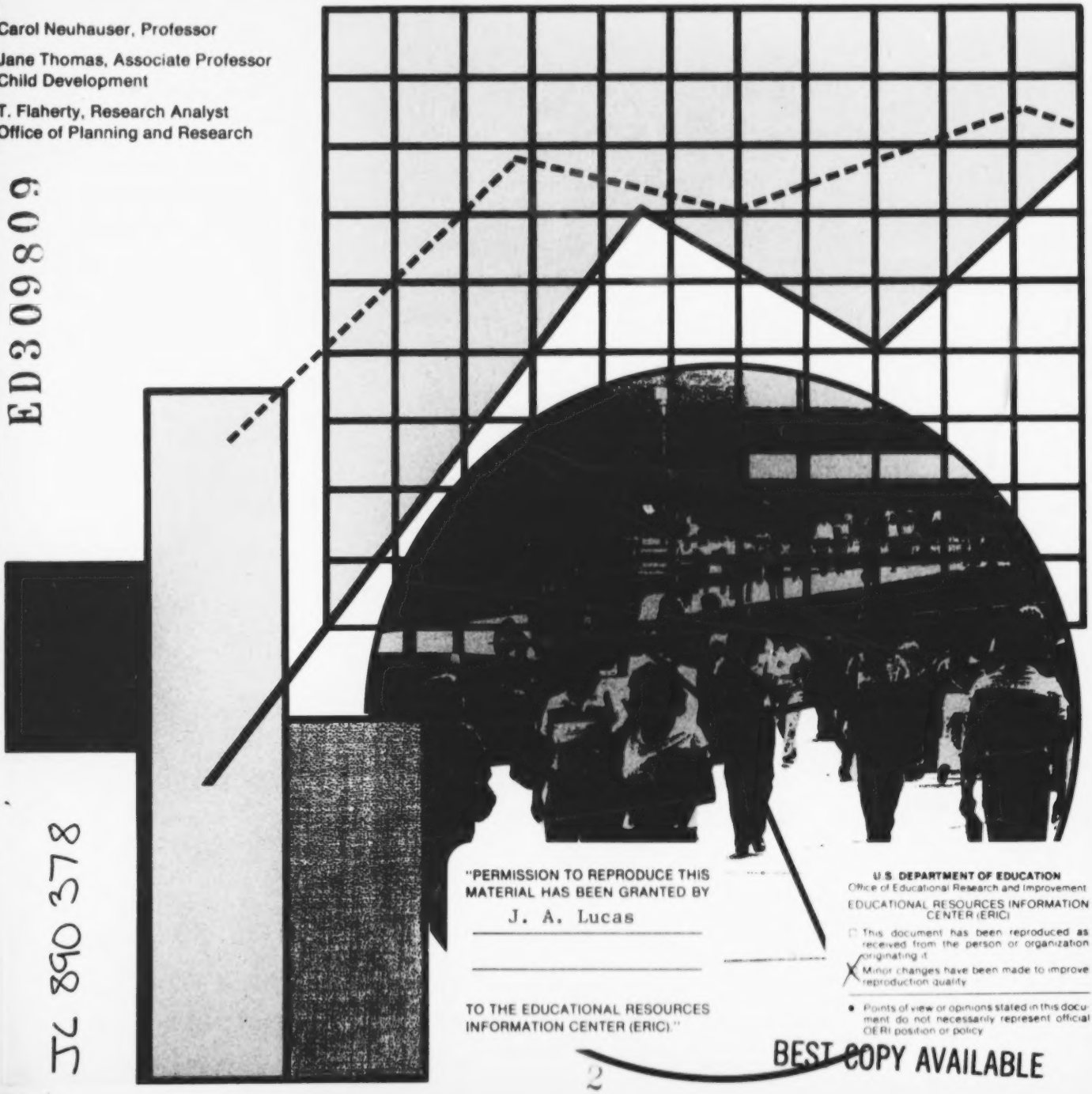

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ABSTRACT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY WAS TO ASSESS HARPER'S CURRENT AND POTENTIAL CHILD CARE NEEDS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM/CHILD CARE SERVICES SHOULD BE EXPANDED. A SURVEY INSTRUMENT WAS DESIGNED AND MAILED TO 708 FULL-TIME FACULTY, FULL-TIME STAFF AND PART-TIME STAFF EMPLOYED BY HARPER COLLEGE AND 312 STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 12. A TOTAL OF 191 STAFF/FACULTY OR 27 PERCENT RESPONDED AND 81 STUDENTS OR 26 PERCENT RESPONDED. THE STUDENT RESULTS WERE PROJECTED OUT TO THE 2,340 TOTAL DEGREE CREDIT STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN UNDER AGE 12.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY SHOW THAT 43 STAFF/FACULTY MEMBERS AND 255 STUDENTS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN USING HARPER'S CHILD CARE CENTER IF SERVICES WERE AVAILABLE AT THE HOURS NEEDED. THE TIME CHILD CARE IS MOST NEEDED BY STAFF/FACULTY IS LATE AFTERNOONS AND FOR STUDENTS, EVENINGS IS WHERE THE BIGGEST NEED OCCURS. ALMOST ALL WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN USING THE CENTER WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY FOR PART-TIME CARE AT $2 PER HOUR. ADDITIONALLY, 31 PEOPLE HAVE A NEED FOR FULL-TIME INFANT CARE, 53 HAVE A NEED FOR FULL-TIME TODDLER CARE, 120 HAVE A NEED FOR FULL-TIME CARE FOR 2-5 YEAR OLDS, WHILE 69 HAVE A NEED FOR KINDERGARTEN.

THE MOST FREQUENT PROBLEM EXPERIENCED BY THOSE WHO NEED OR USE CHILD CARE IS GETTING A SCHEDULE TO MATCH WORK OR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL. THE TYPE OF CHILD CARE MOST COMMONLY USED IS HAVING A RELATIVE CARE FOR THE CHILD/CHILDREN IN THE RELATIVE'S HOME. THE AVERAGE AMOUNT PAID FOR FULL-TIME CHILD CARE FOR EACH CHILD PER WEEK IS $74. FOR PART-TIME CHILD CARE, THE AVERAGE AMOUNT PAID FOR EACH CHILD PER WEEK IS $44.

THE COMMENTS SHOW MUCH SUPPORT FOR AN EXPANDED CHILD CARE PROGRAM AT HARPER. MANY RESPONDENTS STATED THAT THE TIME LIMITATIONS OF HARPER'S CHILD CARE SERVICE PROHIBITS THEM FROM USING THE PROGRAM NOW AND WAS ALSO THE REASON MANY DID NOT USE IT IN THE PAST.

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to assess Harper's current and potential child care needs to determine whether the early childhood program/child care services should be expanded. The study was requested by Carol Neuhauser, Professor and Jane Thomas, Associate Professor of Child Development in the Life Sciences and Human Services Division.

POPULATION SURVEYED AND METHODOLOGY

The survey population consisted of the 708 full-time faculty, full-time staff and part-time staff employed by Harper College and 312 students, chosen from past student characteristic studies, who were responsible for children under age 12. The survey instrument shown in the appendix was developed jointly by the Child Development faculty and the Office of Planning and Research.

After one mailing of the survey instrument, the response rate for staff/faculty was 27 percent or 191 respondents. The response rate for students was 26 percent or 81 students. In the general degree credit student population about 2,340 students are responsible for children under age 12. Since the student sample consisted of 312 students who were responsible for children under age 12, the student data must be multiplied by 7.5 (2340÷312) to estimate the total need for all students. It was assumed that those not responding were not interested in the program.

DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

Results of the survey show that 19 staff/faculty and 154 students would prefer using the Harper Child Care Center. Another 24 staff/faculty and 101 students would consider using the center. Of the 298 who have some interest in the center, 292 (37 staff/faculty and 255 students) would be willing to pay for part-time care at $2 per hour. Additionally, 31 people have a need for full-time infant care, 53 have a need for full-time toddler care, 120 have a need for full-time care for 2-5 year olds and 69 have a need for kindergarten. Also 158 students would be willing to use the Harper Child Care Center at a reduced afternoon rate; however, no specific rates were mentioned.

Among the 191 employees responding to the survey, 53 or 28 percent were responsible for children under age 12. Another 24 employees plan to have children in the next five years. For students, over one-half of the 81 responding to the survey were responsible for children under age 12 and one-fifth planned to have children in the next five years.

Just about 70 percent of the employees responding to the survey are faculty or classified staff and over 85 percent are working full time. Over 90 percent of the students responding are part-time or former students. The majority of both groups responding are female and married. It should also be noted that almost 43 percent of the staff/faculty responding to the survey experienced some inconvenience caused by a fellow employee's child care problem during the past year.

Of both employees and students responding with children under the age of 12, the average age of their children is about 5.6 years. The problem areas for those who need or use child care varied slightly between staff/faculty and students. The most cited problems for both groups are having a schedule to match work and school or college and school, and finding care for a child with a minor illness. These are followed by problems with cost of care and conven-

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS (continued)

ience of location (more of a problem for students than staff/faculty). Students rated all problem areas higher than the staff/faculty. However, all difficulties were considered minor to moderate. Other problem areas listed are evening care, after school care and care for children on school holidays.

Child care difficulties experienced by staff/faculty with children under age 12 were the reason for 131 full days of absence during the past 8 months and 244 partial days missed. Students responding to the survey reported 23 class days missed due to child care difficulties and about 173 class days missed when projected to the total student body having children under age 12. Over one-third of the staff/faculty surveyed considered quitting their jobs due to child care difficulties, while one-half of the students surveyed with children under age 12 considered dropping classes at Harper. When asked what changes students would have made if the kind of child care needed was available at Harper, it is estimated that 97 would have chosen to enroll at different hours and 60 would have enrolled full time instead of part time.

Almost 80 percent of both groups surveyed pay under $100 for full-time child care for each child per week, the average being about $74. The average paid for part-time child care for each child per week is $44.

With regard to the type of care currently used, almost half of the staff/faculty currently have a relative care for their child/children in the relative's home as compared to 92 percent of the students. The time child care is most needed by nearly one-half of the staff/faculty is late afternoons. Over one-third require child care from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For students, two-thirds require evening child care, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Comments from both employees and students show much support for expanding the child care program at Harper. Several stated that they had used Harper's preschool/day care in the past and were extremely pleased with the care given, but the time limitations were inconvenient. Others commented that the time limitations are the reason they currently do not use Harper's child care program or could not use it in the past.

MAJOR CONCLUSIONS

Results of the survey show that 43 staff/faculty members and 255 students would be interested in using Harper's Child Care Center if services were available at the hours needed. The time child care is most needed by staff/faculty is late afternoons and for students, evenings is where the biggest need occurs. Almost all who have an interest in using the center would be willing to pay for part-time care at $2 per hour. Additionally, 31 people have a need for full-time infant care, 53 have a need for full-time toddler care, 120 have a need for full-time care for 2-5 year olds, while 69 have a need for kindergarten.

The most frequent problem experienced by those who need or use child care is getting a schedule to match work or college and school. The type of child care most commonly used is having a relative care for the child/children in the relative's home. The average amount paid for full-time child care for each child per week is $74. For part-time child care, the average amount paid for each child per week is $44.

The comments show much support for an expanded child care program at Harper. Many respondents stated that the time limitations of Harper's child care service prohibits them from using the program now and was also the reason many did not use it in the past.

SURVEY OF INTEREST IN CHILD CARE PROGRAM

	Staff/Faculty N	Staff/Faculty PCT	Students N	Students PCT
Responsible for Children Under Twelve				
Yes	53	27.7	43	53.1
No	138	72.3	38	46.9
Total	191	100.0	81	100.0

	Children Under 12 N	Children Under 12 PCT	No Children Under 12 N	No Children Under 12 PCT
Employee Status				
Administrator	2.0	3.8	17	12.3
Faculty	21.5	40.5	42	30.5
Professional/Technical	7.5	14.1	22	15.9
Supervisory/Confidential	3.0	5.7	5	3.6
Classified	16.0	30.2	49	35.5
Custodial/Maintenance	3.0	5.7	3	2.2
Cafeteria	--	--	-	--
Total	53	100.0	138	100.0

	Children Under 12 Staff/Faculty N	Staff/Faculty PCT	Students N	Students PCT
Status:				
Full Time	39	73.6	1.0	2.3
Part Time	14	26.4	16.5	38.4
Former Student	--	--	25.5	59.3
Total	53	100.0	43.0	100.0
Sex:				
Male	16	30.2	7	16.7
Female	37	69.8	35	83.3
Total	53	100.0	42	100.0
Plan for Children In Next Five Years				
Yes	9	25.0	9	20.9
No	22	61.0	31	72.1
Undecided	5	14.0	3	7.0
Total	36	100.0	43	100.0
Marital Status:				
Married	47	88.7	37	86.0
Single	1	1.9	6	14.0
Divorced	5	9.4	--	--
Widow/Widower	0	0	--	--
Total	53	100.0	43	100.0

	No Children Under 12			
	Staff/Faculty		Students	
	N	PCT	N	PCT
Status:				
Full Time	124	89.9	2	5.4
Part Time	14	10.1	16	43.2
Former Student	--	--	19	51.4
Total	138	100.0	37	100.0
Sex:				
Male	39	28.7	5	13.5
Female	97	71.3	32	86.5
Total	136	100.0	37	100.0
Plan for Children in Next Five Years				
Yes	15	10.9	0	0
No	111	80.4	36	97.3
Undecided	12	8.7	1	2.7
Total	138	100.0	37	100.0
Marital Status:				
Married	103	75.2	28	75.7
Single	17	12.4	9	24.3
Divorced	16	11.7	--	--
Widow/Widower	1	.7	--	--
Total	137	100.0	37	100.0

Inconvenience Caused By Fellow Employees Child Care Problems During the Past Year	Children Under 12 Staff/Faculty		No Children Under 12 Staff/Faculty	
	N	PCT	N	PCT
Not applicable or not aware of problem	17	32.1	53	40.2
No effect	13	24.5	22	16.7
Minor difficulty	12	22.6	32	24.2
Moderate difficulty	9	17.0	14	10.6
Major difficulty	2	3.8	11	8.3
Total	53	100.0	132	100.0

Respondents with Children Under 12

Ages of Children	Staff/Faculty N	Students N
Less than 1 year	5	7
1 year	5	4
2 years	6	6
3 years	7	10
4 years	6	3
5 years	6	7
6 years	4	6
7 years	11	6
8 years	5	11
9 years	6	3
10 years	6	7
11 years	6	4
12 years	1	2
Total Children	74	78
Average Age	5.8 years	5.6 years
Median Age	6.5 years	6.0 years

Potential Problem Area	Staff/Faculty No. of Response	Staff/Faculty Mean Rating*	Staff/Faculty No. of Response	Staff/Faculty Mean Rating*
Cost of care	49	1.27	40	1.28
Convenience of location	48	1.12	40	1.35
Transportation	48	.81	40	.87
Schedule to match work and school	49	1.33	40	1.65
Finding care for child with minor illness	49	1.38	40	1.40
Finding care for infant 0-1 years old	38	.42	29	.83
Finding care for toddler 1-2 years old	36	.47	28	.96
Finding care for child 2-5 years old	39	.67	35	1.17
Finding care for child of kindergarten age	33	.39	32	1.06

*Rating: 0 = no problem
1 = minor problem
2 = moderate problem
3 = major problem

Other problems listed:

Evening Care - 4
After School Care - 4
Care for children on school holidays - 3
Care allowing for varied schedule - 3
Finding quality care - 1

Work days/Class days absent due to child care difficulties	Staff/Faculty - past eight months Full days N	Staff/Faculty - past eight months Partial Days N	Students Last Year Attending N
0	23	16	13
1	4	4	8
2	9	7	8
3	2	4	2
4	3	0	2
5	3	5	1
6	3	3	-
7	1	2	-
8	0	2	-
9	1	0	-
10	1	2	2
Over 10 days	2	7	-
Total days missed	131	244	23
Average per employee	.185	.345	

	Staff/Faculty N	Staff/Faculty PCT	Student Sample N	Student Sample PCT	Projected Students N
Considered quitting job or dropping classes due to child care difficulties	18	34.0	19	47.5	143

Average amount paid for full-time child care for each child per week	Staff/Faculty N	Staff/Faculty PCT	Student Sample N	Student Sample PCT	1.000 Weighted Average PCT
Weight Factor:	.13628		.86372		
Under $100	30	81.1	23	79.3	79.5
$100 - $149	3	8.1	3	10.3	10.0
$150 - $199	3	8.1	2	6.9	7.1
$200 - $249	1	2.7	0	0	.4
$250 - $299	0	0	1	3.5	3.0
$300 or more	0	0	0	0	0
Total	37	100.0	29	100.0	100.0
Average Paid	$70.94		$74.14		

Average amount paid for part-time child care for each child per week	Staff/Faculty N	Staff/Faculty PCT	Student Sample N	Student Sample PCT	1.000 Weighted Average PCT
Weight Factor:	.13628		.86372		
Under $50	28.5	67.9	23	67.6	67.6
$ 50 - $ 99	12	28.5	9	26.5	26.8
$100 - $149	1.5	3.6	2	5.9	5.6
$150 - $199	0	0	0	0	0
$200 or more	0	0	0	0	0
Total	42	100.0	34	100.0	100.0
Average Paid	$42.85		$44.11		

Type of care currently used for children	Weight Factor: .13628 Staff/Faculty N	PCT	.86372 Student Sample N	PCT	1.000 Weighted Average PCT
Relative in your home or theirs	23.08	46.2	30.33	91.9	85.7
Unrelated person in your home	13.33	26.7	14.5	43.9	41.6
Unrelated person in his/her home (family day-care provider)	18.33	36.7	11.5	34.8	35.1
Center based care (include preschools)	13.75	27.5	9.75	29.5	29.2
Child's school	2.5	5.0	2.0	6.1	6.0
Respondents	50		33		

Times child care is usually needed	Weight Factor: .13628 Staff/Faculty N	PCT	.86372 Student Sample N	PCT	1.000 Weighted Average PCT
Before 7 a.m.	8	15.7	2	5.1	6.5
Mornings	15	29.4	9	23.1	24.0
Mornings with lunch	9	17.6	8	20.5	20.1
Afternoons	11	21.6	11	28.2	27.3
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.	17	33.3	7	17.9	20.0
Late afternoons	23	45.1	7	17.9	21.6
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.	11	21.6	25	64.1	58.3
Saturday	1	2.0	7	17.9	15.7
Respondents	51		39		

Interest in using Harper Center as opposed to other arrangements	Staff/ Faculty	Student Sample		*Multiplier for Projected Total Students		Pro-jected Students	Com-bined Total
Yes, prefer using Harper Center	19	20.5	x	7.5	=	154	173
Would consider using Harper Center	24	13.5	x	7.5	=	101	125

Amount Willing to-pay	Staff/ Faculty	Student Sample		*Multiplier for Projected Total Students		Pro-jected Students	Com-bined Total
Full-time care of infants (0-1 yr) $150/week	8	3	x	7.5	=	23	31
Full-time care of toddlers (1-2 yrs) $115-$125/week	8	6	x	7.5	=	45	53
Full-time care of 2-5 yr. olds $100/week	15	14	x	7.5	=	105	120
Kindergarten-$100/week	9	8	x	7.5	=	60	69
Part-time care (inc. day, evening & Sat.) $2/hour	37	34	x	7.5	=	255	292

Changes students would have made if necessary child care was available	Student Sample N		*Multiplier for Projected Total Students		Projected Students N
Chosen to enroll at different hrs.	13	x	7.5	=	97
Chosen a different major field	1	x	7.5	=	8
Enrolled full time instead of part time	8	x	7.5	=	60

	Student Sample N	PCT	*Multiplier for Projected Total Students		Projected Students N
Willingness to use Harper child care at reduced afternoon rate	21	56.8	x 7.5	=	157.5

*Number of total degree credit students with children under 12 / Number sampled with children under 12 = 2340 / 12 (derived from past student characteristic surveys) = 7.5

Harper Employees - Comments

- Sounds great, but my kids will be too old by the time it gets underway.
- You are welcome! Start it up please!
- This really comes too late for me. I have changed my work hours for 8 years to try to fit into Harper's schedule! Five hours a day was not long enough! I came in 3 days a week instead of 2 for many years. I thought Harper's child care program is excellent, but the time limits were hard. After my third child I found a live-in sitter did make the days go smoother, but I still brought my children here for preschool/child care.
- Our current arrangements are to send him to a private school with before and after school care right at the school When I first came to Harper, he was an infant and I would have appreciated full-time care here.
- Harper or district would have to provide bus service to and from the grammar schools in District 15 (or others). Would like a "before and after" school program. Bus service is essential for ages kindergarten (5-12) years old. Please try to do something about this.
- I would only use this service on occasions when my regular sitters were not available.
- It is important to know where your child is - you need someone you can trust. It is nice to have your child conveniently located. I think it is an excellent idea.
- I would like to see Harper provide day care for employees.
- I am glad to see this survey! I am past the "balancing act" period of child care, but I have always felt Harper should provide toddler full-time care for employees -- it is needed!
- What about the 6-11 age group?
- Used child care center years ago - it was great!
- My daughter did go to Harper's preschool/day care until it got to be too difficult to get her here for the 5 hours per day. the ONLY reason I had to discontinue using Harper's services was that I could not leave her there from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. I think that the program is superior to the one I am currently using and my daughter does miss attending "school" where I work. She also misses the teachers greatly! It would be terrific if there weren't a space of time limitation in the day care area. Unfortunately, my daughter will be attending kindergarten next fall and my usage of Harper's day care services is over. Also, why aren't the employees of Harper College given a discount as a benefit? I am sure some employees would benefit more from a day care discount than perhaps, say, dental or eyeglass insurance. Couldn't this be a choice? I have heard of other companies doing this.
- The most difficult time of year for me is the summer months when the cost of child care is so high, it makes me question why I am working since 25% of my salary ends up going for child care. I believe there are facilities and staff available to offer summer programs for school aged children in the form of recreation, reading, math, and language clinics, fine arts, computers, etc. Courses could be offered as general education through CE and a full day of activities could be made. It is not only little kids that pose child care problems for working parents.
- I just wanted to reiterate my concerns over child care. I think something should be done or arranged for those of us who have to work while the Harper Day Care Center is closed - semester/summer breaks, etc. There is a limitation on the number of hours the center can be used. If, for example, my job goes to full time and I was successful in obtaining full-time status, I could not keep my pre-schooler at Harper full time. My other concern is for my second grader - when he is out of school because of teacher institute days, etc., he is not able to come to Harper for day care. More students may take advantage of night classes or student activities scheduled in the evening if day care was available in the evenings.

Harper Employees - Comments (continued)

- As a psychologist and social advocate I think you are providing a great service and hope you can extend your services even further.
- On several occasions, students desiring to take classes were not able to do so because of child care difficulties and due to lack of adequate day care on campus.
- As a single parent who wrestled with all the problems of a working mother, I am very pleased with the attention that the subject of child care is finally receiving. Good luck!
- Problematic occasionally when students are late, etc., due to facilities not being open in EARLY a.m.
- I am very excited about the possibility of an early child care program (infants and toddlers) at Harper. My husband and I want very much to start a family and such a facility would make our decision and our lives much easier. I would be happy to help in any way to implement an early child care program. Thanks!
- My work with prospective students has involved my trying to locate evening affordable child care. I hope Harper will be able to offer more child care, especially in the evenings.
- One problem included high school age children.
- A few comments: Although my child is now past the age of needing day care, I strongly believe it is up to ALL of us to pave the way for future generations. I wholeheartedly support on-site care. Secondly, when these surveys were sent to our department there were NOT enough to go around. We received 8 - there are 30 people here). Attempts to get more were futile! As I felt it was important that everyone have the opportunity to participate I duplicated them at our department's expense. Thank you for this opportunity!
- I would appreciate having child care available in the future.

Harper Students - Comments

- Please -- I have a suggestion I would like you to think about. What about offering your child development students time to spend with young children (3 and under) one-on-one. I would be glad to hire a child development student to care for my child in my home while I attended class. As a pediatric nurse, I have often seen children in the hospital with meningitis and other various illnesses because of being in a group day care facilities. I do not wish this on my children. Young children and infants do not necessarily benefit from group dynamics and their hygienic practices (i.e. mouthing toys) put them at risk for many infections. I am interested in many classes at Harper; however, my husband travels frequently and works late often therefore I have not signed up for any classes at Harper. I will not put my child at 13-1/2 months in a group day care situation. I am, however, open for care in my home. Thank you for your interest in this subject.
- Re: Question 17E - seems high, but for the few classes I took it was reasonable. The enrollment was high - I would have liked to let her go on regular basis.
- I had my children enrolled in child care center on the campus whenever I could adjust my schedule to the 5-hour maximum day. On other days, I had to look for other arrangements. In my opinion Harper child care center was the best place for my children from all forms of care I had. It is their opinion too! They still remember all the fun they had. I hope you will extend the hours for all the future students with children. Thank you very much for all the love and care you give to the children. You do a very good job!

- I only took classes for my certification process from the College of Financial Planning in Denver.
- I have not had occasion to use a child care service at all. My child is in school full time now. I only have a problem when she is sick.
- Cannot tell you how many times I wished Harper handled 0-2 year olds. Would be marvelous at any price! Quality and convenience are most important.

APPENDIX

- Survey Instrument to Harper Students
  with cover letter

- Survey Instrument to Harper Employees
  with cover letter

William Rainey Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067
312-397-3000

January 1989

Dear Member of the Harper Community:

One of Harper's 1988-89 institutional goals is "to explore the feasibility of a comprehensive child care service in partnership with the existing College service, and business and industry." Enclosed is a questionnaire being sent to Harper students and Harper employees to assess Harper's current and potential child care needs.

Presently Harper College offers early childhood education services for children 2½-6 for less than 5 hours per day or for a half-day program. The purpose of the enclosed survey is to determine if there is also a need for a full-time child care service (more than 5 hours per day). We are exploring the need for programs for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and kindergartners as well as Saturday care for children up to 12 years of age.

The Child Development Department appreciates your providing the information needed to determine whether our early childhood program/child care services should be expanded. For your convenience we have enclosed a self-addressed return envelope for return of the completed survey.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pam Hanner at 397-3000, extension #2476, between 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Thank you for your help,

Carol Neuhauser

Carol Neuhauser, Professor
Child Development

Jane Thomas

Jane Thomas, Associate Professor
Child Development

jc
Enclosures

SURVEY FOR HARPER STUDENTS

CHILD-CARE NEEDS

1- Are you responsible or partially responsible for children under 12 years of age? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Yes -- answer all the questions on the survey.
_____ B. No -- Answer just the next 4 questions (2 - 5).

2- Check (x) your student status:

_____ A. Full Time
_____ B. Part Time
_____ C. Former Student

3- Gender: _____ A. Male
_____ B. Female

4- Do you plan to have children within the next 5 years?

_____ A. Yes
_____ B. No
_____ C. Undecided

5- Marital Status: _____ A. Married
_____ B. Single

If you <u>are not</u> responsible for children under age 12 stop here. Thank you for your help in answering this survey. Please return the survey to the Office of Planning and Research in the return envelope which is enclosed for your convenience. If you <u>are</u> responsible or <u>partially</u> responsible for children under age 12, please continue answering the survey.

6- Please list the ages of children under 12 you are responsible or partially responsible for:

_____ Child No. 1
_____ Child No. 2
_____ Child No. 3
_____ Child No. 4
_____ Child No. 5
_____ Child No. 6

7- Here are some common problem areas for college-going parents who need or use child care. Have you had any problems in any of these areas in the past few years? Check (x) the appropriate column for each item.

Potential Problem Area	No Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Major Problem
a. Cost of care	____	____	____	____
b. Convenience of location	____	____	____	____
c. Transportation	____	____	____	____
d. Schedule to match college and school	____	____	____	____
e. Finding care for child with minor illness	____	____	____	____
f. Finding care for infant - 0-1 years old	____	____	____	____
g. Finding care for toddler - 1-2 years old	____	____	____	____
h. Finding care for child - 2-5 years old	____	____	____	____
i. Finding care for child of kindergarten age	____	____	____	____
j. Other (describe)_____ _____ _____	____	____	____	____

8- Approximately how many days have you been absent from class during the last year you attended class at Harper due to child care difficulties?_____

9- Had you ever considered dropping your classes at Harper College because of child care difficulties? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Yes
_____ B. No

10- What is the average total amount you paid per week for full-time child care for each child while you were enrolled at Harper? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Under $100
_____ B. $100 - $149
_____ C. $150 - $199
_____ D. $200 - $249
_____ E. $250 - $299
_____ F. $300 or more

11- What was the average total amount you paid per week for part-time child care for each child while you were enrolled at Harper? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Under $50
_____ B. $ 50 - $ 99
_____ C. $100 - $149
_____ D. $150 - $199
_____ E. $200 or more

15- If you could have obtained the kind of child care you wanted at the times you needed and at a reasonable cost while enrolled at Harper, would you have chosen the following? Mark (x) Yes or No for each item.

A. Would have chosen to enroll at different hours
_____ No
_____ Yes (specify)_____

B. Would have chosen a different major field
_____ No
_____ Yes (specify)_____

C. Would have enrolled full time instead of part time
_____ No
_____ Yes

D. Other decisions (specify)_____
_____
_____

16- If you could have obtained the kind of child care you wanted for a reduced rate during the afternoon while enrolled at Harper, would you have been willing to enroll in the afternoon? Check (x) one.

_____ A. No
_____ B. Yes (how much discount would you have needed?)_____
_____

17- Would you have been willing to pay the amount listed below for child care services? Check (x) Yes or No for each item.

Service	Yes	No
a. Full-time care of infants (0-1 yr. old) $150/week	_____	_____
b. Full-time care of toddlers (1-2 yrs. old) $115-$125/week	_____	_____
c. Full-time care of 2-5 year olds $100/week	_____	_____
d. Kindergarten $100/week	_____	_____
e. Part-time care (includes day, evening and saturday - $2.00 an hour	_____	_____

THANK YOU for responding to this survey.

William Rainey Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067
312-397-3000

January 1989

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The Child Development Department appreciates your providing the information needed to determine whether our early childhood program/child care services should be expanded. Please return the completed survey to Dr. J. A. Lucas, PLG/RES, A-312

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pam Hanner at extension #2476, between 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Thank you for your help,

Carol Neuhauser

Carol Neuhauser, Professor
Child Development

Jane Thomas

Jane Thomas, Associate Professor
Child Development

jc
Enclosure

SURVEY FOR HARPER EMPLOYEES

CHILD-CARE NEEDS

1- Are you responsible or partially responsible for children under 12 years of age? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Yes -- answer all the questions on the survey.
_____ B. No -- Answer just the next 6 questions (2 - 7).

2- Check (x) your employee status:

_____ A. Administrator
_____ B. Faculty
_____ C. Professional/Technical
_____ D. Supervisory/Confidential
_____ E. Classified
_____ F. Custodial/Maintenance
_____ G. Cafeteria

3- Check (x) your employee status:

_____ A. Full Time
_____ B. Part Time

4- Gender: _____ A. Male
_____ B. Female

5- Do you plan to have children within the next 5 years?

_____ A. Yes
_____ B. No
_____ C. Undecided

6- Marital Status: _____ A. Married
_____ B. Single
_____ C. Divorced
_____ D. Widow/Widower

7- During the past year has your work been more difficult or inconvenient when other employees you work with had child care problems? For example, has your work been held up when they had to stay home with their children?

_____ A. Not applicable or not aware of problems
_____ B. No effect
_____ C. Minor difficulty
_____ D. Moderate difficulty
_____ E. Major difficulty

If you <u>are not</u> responsible for children under 12 stop here. Thank you for your help in answering this survey. Please return the survey to the Office of Planning and Research. If you <u>are responsible or partially responsible</u> for children under 12, please continue answering the survey.

8- Please list the ages of children under 12 for which you are responsible or partially responsible.

_____ Child No. 1
_____ Child No. 2
_____ Child No. 3
_____ Child No. 4
_____ Child No. 5
_____ Child No. 6

9- Here are some common problem areas for working parents who need or use child care. Have you had any problems in any of these areas in the past year? Check (x) the appropriate column for each item.

Potential Problem Area	No Problem	Minor Problem	Moderate Problem	Major Problem
a. Cost of care	_____	_____	_____	_____
b. Convenience of location	_____	_____	_____	_____
c. Transportation	_____	_____	_____	_____
d. Schedule to match work & school	_____	_____	_____	_____
e. Finding care for child with minor illness	_____	_____	_____	_____
f. Finding care for infant - 0-1 years old	_____	_____	_____	_____
g. Finding care for toddler - 1-2 years old	_____	_____	_____	_____
h. Finding care for child - 2-5 years old	_____	_____	_____	_____
i. Finding care for child of kindergarten age	_____	_____	_____	_____
j. Other (describe)_____ _____ _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

10- Approximately how many days have you been absent in the past 8 months due to child care difficulties? _____

11- Approximately how many days have you missed part of a day (e.g. arrived late, left early, had significant interruption) due to child care difficulties? _____

12- Have you ever considered quitting your job at Harper College because of child care difficulties? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Yes
_____ B. No

13- What is the average total amount you pay per week for full-time child care for each child while you work? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Under $100
_____ B. $100 - $149
_____ C. $150 - $199
_____ D. $200 - $249
_____ E. $250 - $299

_____ F. $300 or more

14- What is the average total amount you pay per week for part-time child care for each child while you work? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Under $50
_____ B. $ 50 - $ 99
_____ C. $100 - $149
_____ D. $150 - $199
_____ E. $200 or more

15- What type of care do you now use for your children. If the child is usually cared for in more than one arrangement, mark the one used for the most hours. Check one item for each child.

Type of Arrangement	Child No. 1	Child No. 2	Child No. 3	Child No. 4	Child No. 5	Child No. 6
a. Relative in your home or theirs						
b. Unrelated person in your home						
c. Unrelated person in his or her home (family day care provider)						
d. Center based care (including preschools)						
e. Other (describe)_____ _____ _____						

16- When do you usually need child care? Check (x) all that apply.

Times	Child No. 1	Child No. 2	Child No. 3	Child No. 4	Child No. 5	Child No. 6
a. Before 7:00 a.m.						
b. Mornings						
c. Mornings with lunch						
d. Afternoons						
e. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.						
f. Late afternoon after school						
g. 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.						
h. Saturday						
i. Other (specify)_____ _____ _____						

17- Would you consider using the child care center on the Harper main campus as opposed to your regular arrangements if the hours needed are available? Check (x) one.

_____ A. Yes, would prefer using the Harper center

_____ B. Would consider using the Harper center

_____ C. Not interested in using the Harper center

18- Would you be willing to pay the amount listed below for child care services? Check (x) Yes or No for each item.

Service	Yes	No
a. Full-time care of infants (0-1 yr. old) $150/week	_____	_____
b. Full-time care of toddlers (1-2 yrs. old) $115-$125/week	_____	_____
c. Full-time care of 2-5 year olds $100/week	_____	_____
d. Kindergarten $100/week	_____	_____
e. Part-time care (includes day, evening and saturday - $2.00 an hour	_____	_____

THANK YOU for responding to this survey.

OPERATIONAL STAFF:

Secretary: Janice A. Cook
Mailing, Tabulation: Karla Hill

ERIC Clearinghouse for Junior Colleges SEP 22 1989